

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

spiritual persons as his work, and that they all looked to him to aid the Pope in reforming the Church. It is clear that he was most reluctant to break with Urban, or to take any steps against the unity of Christendom. When Fra Gonsalvo returned to Rome in June, he found him at Santa Maria in Cosmedin, his titular church, where he had taken up his residence in obedience to the papal decree. Alone with the Cardinal (whose confessor he was), the friar besought him to tell him the truth as to the reports that were spreading about Urban's election ; to which he answered that they had elected him in good faith, but that his conduct since had been insupportable.¹ According to Alfonso da Vadaterra, he complained also of Urban's ingratitude. " The other ultramontane cardinals have all gone to Anagni," he said, as they walked together in his garden, " and why should I linger here with our lord, when he will grant me none of my requests ?" At last, he decided to follow them, though Alfonso implored him not to go. " He told me," says the hermit-bishop, ^{f<} that in his conscience he considered our lord the true Pope ; but that, if he went to Anagni, he would do so to obviate the malice and sedition of the French cardinals, who had an utterly evil and vindictive intention against him ; and that he thought to serve our lord the Pope better there than if he remained with him in Rome. And I believe certainly that he went with this good intention; he wished to catch others in Anagni, but, alas, was caught himself, which I cannot recall without heartfelt grief." ²

Urban had at first no suspicion as to the intentions of the cardinals, and even talked of joining them at Anagni. He now took alarm, hearing that they were plotting against him and saying that he was not Pope, and summoned them to appear within a certain time in his presence at Tivoli, whither he went on June 27, accompanied by Cardinal Tebaldeschi. " I do not know what will happen," wrote Cristoforo da Piacenza, with cheerful optimism, to Lodovico Gonzaga, " but it is hoped that

¹ Deposition of Fra Gonsalvo, MS. *cit.* f.

60. ³ Raynaldus, vii. p. 379. 272